

IN HONOR OF CAPTAIN STANLEY
VINCENT DEGEUS

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor Captain Stanley DeGeus on his retirement from the United States Navy, which he has faithfully served for over three decades.

Captain Stanley Vincent DeGeus is a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and a 1979 graduate of Villanova University. At Villanova, he earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology and was commissioned an Ensign through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Program.

Following commissioning, Captain DeGeus completed Division Officer tours as Administrative Officer, Second Division Officer, and Combat Information Center/Missile Officer in USS SEATTLE (AOE 3) from November 1979 to May 1983. His first shore assignment was Commissioning Crew and Navigation/Naval Operations Instructor at the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Program at Boston University. While at Boston University, he received his Master's Degree in Biology in January 1986.

Captain DeGeus' subsequent afloat duty included assignment as Executive Officer in USS IMPLICIT (MSO 455) from October 1986 to November 1987 and as Executive Officer in USS ENHANCE (MSO 437) during mine countermeasure operations in the Persian Gulf. He then served as Operations Officer in USS CROMMELIN (FFG 37) from June 1988 to December 1989. Captain DeGeus served as Commissioning Commanding Officer in USS CHAMPION (MCM 4) from May 1990 to September 1992.

Following a year of study at the Naval War College, where he received a Master's Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies, he completed a three-year tour of duty as an instructor in the Command Training Department at Surface Warfare Officers School Command in Newport, Rhode Island. From May 1997 to November 1998, Captain DeGeus served as Commanding Officer in USS BONHOMME RICHARD (LHD 6) from September 2001 to February 2003. USS BONHOMME RICHARD deployed for both Operation Enduring Freedom (67 combat sorties) and Operation Iraqi Freedom during his tenure in support of the Global War on Terrorism. Following a tour of duty as a Strategy and Alignment Branch Head in OPNAV 76 and as Sea Shield Pillar Lead in OPNAV 70, Captain DeGeus reported as Commander, Surface Warfare Development Group in May 2005.

Captain DeGeus' medals and decorations include two Legion of Merit awards, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, three Meritorious Service Medals, two Navy Commendation Medals, and four Navy Achievement awards. Most impressive is that he was able to lead a highly successful career in the Navy all while raising his three remarkable children—Juliane Catherine, Case James, and Cory—with his wife, Barbara Jean Mellon of Freehold, New Jersey.

HONORING MR. IRVIN E. RICHTER,
2010 NEW JERSEY BUSINESS
HALL OF FAME RECIPIENT

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Irvin Richter for his induction into the New Jersey Business Hall of Fame. Mr. Richter has demonstrated significant leadership and dedication to his community, and for this he deserves great praise.

A Laureate induction into the New Jersey Business Hall of Fame is a lifetime achievement award for individuals making a significant, positive impact on New Jersey. Inductees demonstrate, as Mr. Richter has throughout their professional lives high ethical standards, mentorship, community involvement and innovative leadership.

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Hill International, Mr. Richter is known for his expertise in the field of construction contacts and claims. His reputation for excellence is worldwide, after working on projects such as the Channel Tunnel, EPCOT, Reliance Oil Refinery, Athens Metro, King Khalid Military City, Petronas Twin Towers, Washington Metro, and the Alaska Pipeline. Mr. Richter is not only an actively sought expert, but also an international arbitrator and mediator for the leading participants in the industry. In addition, he has provided expert witness testimony on numerous occasions regarding contractual and damage issues.

Mr. Richter has been honored as a Distinguished Alumnus from his alma mater Wesleyan University and from his Law school, Rutgers University School of Law, Camden. He is a member of the World Presidents' Organization (WPO) and the Construction Industry Round Table (CIRT). He is a current and past member of the Board of Trustees of Rutgers University, the Board of Directors of the Construction Management Association of America (CMAA), the Board of Governors of Temple University Hospital and the Board of Directors of the ACE Mentor Program. In 2002, Mr. Richter was made a fellow by the CMAA for his contributions to the construction management industry. At that time, he was one of only 17 Fellows in the history of the organization.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Richter's contributions to his field and to state of New Jersey should not go unrecognized. I want to personally thank Irvin Richter for the exceptional leadership he has provided and the impact he has made all over the world. I congratulate Mr. Richter on his induction to the New Jersey Hall of Fame and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

CAREGIVERS AND VETERANS OMNIBUS HEALTH SERVICES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of S. 1963, the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2009.

The United States of America has a moral obligation to provide for all the brave men and women whose courageous service allows all of us to live the lives we do.

This service comes not without a price, and America must provide for these service members and their families during deployment and post-deployment.

Our disabled, ill and injured veterans need the assistance and care they deserve for their sacrifice.

S. 1963 will expand mental health services for veterans; enhance health services for 1.8 million women veterans—which for the first time includes care for newborns.

This is a landmark legislation that builds upon the last three years of significant accomplishments for veterans, troops and military families.

S. 1963 will allow for a caregiver of a veteran to receive training, counseling, lodging and subsistence payments when accompanying a veteran on medical care visits.

We must ensure that those who care for our veterans are properly equipped and trained to do so.

In addition, we will prohibit the VA from collecting copayments from veterans who are catastrophically disabled.

I am proud to vote for S. 1963, on behalf of all the service members, veterans and their families in my District. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. MCNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my proud support for the passage of historic health reform legislation earlier this year. I am glad the Congress, after working for more than nine months, was able to pass comprehensive health care reform that will reduce the growth in health care costs, cut the deficit, and provide affordable health insurance for an additional 32 million Americans.

The package passed by Congress, which includes H.R. 3590 and H.R. 4872 as enacted, will reduce the deficit by \$143 billion over ten years and by more than \$1 trillion over the second decade. Enacting responsible health care reform will provide health care security for individuals, families, and small businesses across the country. This legislation will ensure that individuals can no longer be denied coverage due to a pre-existing condition or kicked off their insurance when they get sick. Health care reform also places caps on annual and lifetime out-of-pocket costs so that individuals and families will no longer go bankrupt due to an illness.

Despite the benefits and enhanced Medicare protections that I am confident health reform will bring, I wish to stress the importance of vigorous oversight of the newly created Independent Medicare Advisory Board, IMAB. H.R. 3590 establishes such a board, whose goal is to reduce the per capita rate of growth in Medicare spending. I strongly support the need to control costs, but I believe elected officials who answer to the people should make the key decisions affecting health programs. Medicare beneficiaries expect Congress to

take responsibility for shaping Medicare, allowing Americans a voice through their elected representatives in determining the benefits they receive on a daily basis.

H.R. 3950 wisely prevents IMAB from recommending measures that would ration health care, increase Medicare beneficiary cost-sharing, or otherwise restrict benefits. However, we must remain vigilant in our oversight of IMAB to ensure that the board serves our constituents' best interests.

HONORING KATHRYN GALLANIS
MATERN

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Kathryn Gallanis Matern, an accomplished attorney and the next president of the Women's Bar Association of Illinois.

After receiving her Juris Doctorate from The John Marshall Law School in Chicago, Ms. Gallanis Matern made a name for herself as the lead prosecutor while working for the Assistant State's Attorney's Felony Trial Division. Many of her cases, most notably the Keystone Case, received substantial attention from the national media.

Outside of her professional duties, Ms. Gallanis Matern remains very busy. Her involvement in the community includes volunteering for the Junior League of Chicago and the New Trier Citizen's League, as well as being the acting Vice President of the Chicago Republican Women's Network. These achievements have culminated in her becoming the next president of the Women's Bar Association of Illinois.

It is my honor to recognize Kathryn Gallanis Matern, an accomplished attorney, volunteer, and member of Chicagoland women's associations.

RECOGNIZING THE WORLD WAR II
VETERANS FROM AMERICAN LE-
GION POST 960

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the World War II Veterans of American Legion Post 960.

As we mark the 65th anniversary to the end of World War II, it is important that we continue to recognize the remarkable courage and sacrifice these members of the greatest generation of Americans gave for our country. We must never forget their struggle to maintain an enduring freedom throughout the world, and we all owe a debt to those who defended our liberty under circumstances most of us can only imagine.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to American Legion Post 960 for providing such an invaluable service to our community and our veterans. Established April 26, 1956, the 478 member post has been a place for veterans to gather together and their food holi-

day drives have helped feed many needy families in our community.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize the World War II Veterans of American Legion Post 960 for their extraordinary heroics and sacrifices for our country, and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the service of these brave Americans.

THE CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH AD-
VISORY COUNCIL: A LEGACY OF
SERVICE

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in congratulating the 2009–2010 Congressional Youth Advisory Council. This year 45 students from public, private, and home schools in grades 9 through 12 made their voices heard and made a difference in their communities, their country and their Congress. These students volunteered their time, effort, and talent to inform me about the important issues facing their generation. As young leaders within their communities and their schools, these students boldly represent the promise and the hope we all have for their very bright future.

President Ronald Reagan said, "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."

To ensure that the blessing of freedom is passed from one generation to the next, the members of the CYAC spent time interviewing a veteran and documenting the experience for the "Preserving History Project." Today I'm proud to submit the brief summaries provided so the patriotic service of our dedicated veterans and the thoughtful work of the CYAC may be preserved for antiquity in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. A copy of each submitted student summary follows.

To each member of the Congressional Youth Advisory Council, thank you for making this year and this group a success. It is not a coincidence that this congressional tribute celebrates two generations of service. Each of you is trusted with the precious gift of freedom.

You are the voices of the future and I salute you. God bless you and God bless America.

The summary follows:

Retired Staff Sergeant Bernard J. Grant served a year in Vietnam as a convoy escort and over eight more years in Europe in counter-intelligence. He was the winner of several awards including: Army Commendation, five Awards of Good Conduct, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, a Unit Citation, and more. He truly understood his duty and he carried it out no questions asked, without regard for his personal opinion. Grant understood that to serve in the military meant to be a weapon of the American government and a part of the greatest military on Earth. In this military, unity and personal sacrifice is key;

there is little room for individualism, for the military must be one in action and goal. One's duty to their country comes before all personal desires. My discussion with Mr. Grant taught me these important lessons, which I will carry with me for the rest of my life. I will always remember them, and I will always respect those who serve our country, and those that have served our country, for their duty, honor, and sacrifice.—Josh Eldridge.

CAREGIVERS AND VETERANS
OMNIBUS HEALTH SERVICES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to proudly support the House Amendments to S. 1963, the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act; legislation that recognizes and aims to meet the needs of our veterans who have bravely served in Iraq and Afghanistan after 9/11. My colleagues will remember that this legislation was held up in the Senate due to one senator's objection that the bill was not paid for. However, our warriors have already paid a very high price through their sacrifices and selfless devotion to our national security, and they should be repaid with excellent care when they return to civilian life. Fortunately, this legislation builds on the Democratic Congress' record of supporting our veterans through new and innovative programs, fixing some of the existing problems in the VA, and increasing funding for the VA budget.

The legislation we are voting on today is a comprehensive approach to caring for our veterans. Specifically, it provides robust support for those who care for our wounded warriors, addresses the needs women veterans, expands services to rural veterans and for mental health care, and closes a loophole for disabled veterans health care.

Specifically, the House amendments to S. 1963 provides services, training, and reimbursements for the caregivers of veterans who return from war with serious injuries. It will strengthen support for caregivers of all veterans and will provide reimbursements for lodging and healthcare to caregivers of Afghanistan and Iraq War veterans through the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

In addition, the legislation expands health care services for our 1.8 million women veterans including provisions mandating a study of the barriers to women veterans seeking health care, education and training for mental health professionals caring for veterans with sexual trauma, a reintegration and readjustment pilot program, establishment of a child care pilot program for women receiving regular and intensive mental health care and intensive health care services, and post-delivery health care for new born children.

This comprehensive bill also improves health care for our veterans living in rural areas, including by expanding transportation for veterans to local VA hospitals and clinics through VA grants to local Veterans Service Organizations and provides increased access to counseling and other mental health centers to any member of the Armed Forces.